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Message Text

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42
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 NIC-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /118 W
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R 131431Z SEP 74
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1199
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION BERLIN
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 5580

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, GW, PL,US
SUBJECT: FRG-POLISH RELATIONS AND GIEREK LEADERSHIP STABILITY

REF A) BONN 14400; B) WARSAW 5473; C) BONN 13965

1. WITH REFERENCE TO PARA 3 REF A, WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION BONN CAN DEVELOP FROM ITS POLISH COUNSELOR SOURCE WHICH WOULD SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFY ELEMENTS THE SOURCE SAID NO LONGER SUPPORT GIEREK WHOLE-HEARTEDLY. WE ARE UNAWARE OF ANY SUCH ELEMENTS OR ANY WEAKENING OF GIEREK'S POSITION. TO THE CONTRARY, GIEREK'S POSITION, ALREADY SOLID, SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN STRENGTHENED BY THE REMOVAL OF SZLACHCIC FROM THE SECRETARIAT IN JUNE. SZLACHCIC REPRESENTED A POTENTIAL ALTERNATIVE TO GIEREK FOR A RATHER STRANGE MIXTURE OF FORMER MOCZARITIES, OUTSPOKEN NATIONALISTS OF VARIOUS COLORATION, AND INTELLECTUALS. THERE IS NO ONE LEFT IN THE PARTY HIERARCHY NOW WHO APPEARS TO HAVE THE STANDING AND ABILITY TO POSE AN ALTERNATIVE TO GIEREK. MORE-OVER, THERE ARE NO RECOGNIZABLE GROUPS OR ELEMENTS WITHIN THE PARTY AT THE MOMENT WHO ADVOCATE POLICIES OR PROGRAMS
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MEASURABLY DIFFERENT FROM THE OFFICIALLY STATED POLICIES OF

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GIEREK'S REGIME.

2. THE GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS ARE SURELY A NEURALGIC POINT FOR THE GIEREK REGIME, AND THERE WERE REPORTS FOLLOWING BRANDT'S RESIGNATION THAT A HUNT WAS ON FOR A SCAPEGOAT FOR THE FAILURE TO REACH AGREEMENT, SINCE SCHMIDT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE TOUGHER TO DEAL WITH. HOWECER, THERE IS GENERAL AGREEMENT AMONG OUR POLISH SOURCES THAT GIEREK WAS WILLING TO SETTLE WITH BONN LATE LAST YEAR ON TERMS THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN ACCEPTABLE TO BONN. WHEN THE QUESTION ARISES OF WHO ADVOCATED RAISING THE ANTE ON THE POLISH SIDE, GIEREK DOES NOT COME IN FOR PERSONAL CRITICISM.

3. SENIOR POLISH DIPLOMATS ARE NOT ABOVE PAINTING THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION BLACK IN LOBBYING FOR U.S. SUPPORT. THIS IS NOT TO SAY THAT ULTIMATE AND FINAL FAILURE ON THE GERMAN QUESTION COULD NOT POSE A SERIOUS PROBLEM FOR GIEREK, IN BOTH ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL TERMS. BUT AT THIS JUNCTURE THE PROBLEM LOOKS MORE LONG-RANGE THAN IMMEDIATE.
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